WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An image processing method for generating image data in a second format from image data in a first format, the image data in the first format including image data that is uncompressed or compressed and substantially losslessly, obtained by digitizing signals output from an imaging device, and the image data in the second format including a luminance signal and color signals, the image processing method comprising the steps of:

selecting a processing module to be used from among a plurality of types of processing modules, based on image property information associated with the image data in the first format;

converting the image data in the first format into image data in a third format that is different from the second format, using the processing module selected in the selecting; and

generating the image data in the second format based on the image data in the third format.

2. An image processing method according to Claim 1, wherein in selecting, selection of a processing module for matching a bit depth of the image data in the first format with a predetermined bit depth, based on the image property

information, is included.

3. An image processing method according to Claim 1, wherein in selecting, based on the image property information, a processing module for converting the image data in the first format into a predetermined format, according to whether color filters of the imaging device that has output the image data in the first format are primary color filters or complementary color filters is selected.

4. An image processing method according to Claim 1, wherein in selecting, based on the image property information, a processing module for converting the image data in the first format so that the image data has a predetermined aspect ratio in accordance with an aspect ratio of pixels of the imaging device that has output the image data in the first format is selected.

5. An image processing method according to Claim 1, wherein in selecting, based on the image property information, a processing module for converting the image data in the first format into a predetermined format, in accordance with an arrangement of color filters of the imaging device that has output the image data in the first

format is selected.

6. An image processing method according to Claim 1, wherein in converting, based on the image property information, converting a unit of a parameter of property information associated with the image data in the first format into a predetermined unit is included.

7. An image processing method according to Claim 1, wherein in selecting, based on the image property information, an expanding module for expanding the image data in the first format is selected.

8. An image processing method according to Claim 1, wherein the image data in the third format is image data that does not depend on hardware characteristics of the imaging device.

9. An image processing apparatus for generating image data in a second format from image data in a first format, the image data in the first format including image data that is uncompressed or compressed and substantially losslessly, obtained by digitizing signals output from an imaging device, and the image data in the second format including a luminance signal and color signals, the image processing

apparatus comprising:

a selecting unit which selects a processing module to be used from among a plurality of types of processing modules, based on image property information associated with the image data in the first format;

a converting unit which converts the image data in the first format into image data in a third format that is different from the second format, using the processing module selected by said selecting unit; and

a generating unit which generates the image data in the second format based on the image data in the third format.

10. A storage medium storing a control program for allowing a computer to execute image processing for generating image data in a second format from image data in a first format, the image data in the first format including image data that is uncompressed or compressed substantially losslessly, obtained by digitizing signals output from an imaging device, and the image data in the second format including a luminance signal and color signals, said control program comprising:

code for a selecting step, of selecting a processing module to be used from among a plurality of types of processing modules, based on image property information associated with the image data in the first format;

code for a converting step, of converting the image data in the first format into image data in a third format that is different from the second format, using the processing module selected in said selecting step; and

code for a generating step, of generating the image data in the second format based on the image data in the third format.

11. A control program for allowing a computer to execute image processing for generating image data in a second format from image data in a first format, the image data in the first format including image data that is uncompressed or compressed substantially losslessly, obtained by digitizing signals output from an imaging device, and the image data in the second format including a luminance signal and color signals, said control program comprising:

code for a selecting step, of selecting a processing module to be used from among a plurality of types of processing modules, based on image property information associated with the image data in the first format;

code for a converting step, of converting the image data in the first format into image data in a third format that is different from the second format, using the processing module selected in said selecting step; and

code for a generating step, of generating the image data in the second format based on the image data in the third format.